

From Pastor Wonnacott's keyboard:

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Church Office Hours:

Monday – Friday
8:00 am – 12:00 pm

Sunday Schedule:

Sunday School: 8:30 am
Worship: 9:30 am

Pastor Neil Wonnacott

Office Hours: M, W, TH & F
8:30 – 11:30 am

Since I started my ministry here at St. Paul's we have used many different hymns in the worship services over the years. Some hymns are used more than others and some might be used only once a year. It's hard to pick one favorite hymn out of all the ones we have sung but lately I have fallen in love with the hymn 411, "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light."

Did you know that every hymn has Scriptures references? Hymn 411 comes from 2 Corinthians 4:4-6. Verse 6 tells us: *6 For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. Jesus is the One who takes us out of the darkness and into His Light!*

The hymn also references Hebrews 12:1-2 which says: *Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, ² looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God. This is a reminder of what Jesus did to save us.*

Another reference is 1 John 1:5 which says: *This is the message we have heard from Him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in Him is no*

darkness at all. We know and believe that in Jesus there is no sin or anything that is evil. We can trust in Jesus with all our being.

Finally, Revelation 21:23 says: *And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and its lamp is the Lamb.* What a beautiful picture of heaven and the center of it being Jesus, the Light and the Lamb; He is all that we need!

Do you realize that the hymns are a message from the Word of God set to music? If you like a hymn note the Bible references at the bottom of the page and grow deeper in the Word with that hymn.

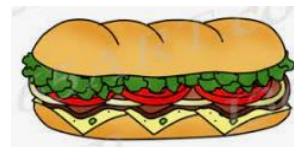
To my brothers and sisters in Christ: may we live, love, and work together as children of God in His light!

THE DEADLINE FOR THE MARCH EPISTLE IS FEBRUARY 20TH!!! Epistle articles, comments, ideas may be deposited in the epistle box in the Narthex mail slots or e-mailed to Eric Thornton at firemanet@yahoo.com. I appreciate all of your articles, ideas and comments!

YOUTH BOARD NEWS and NOTES

Upcoming Events

- **SUPER BOWL SUBS ARE BACK:** The Youth will be subs for the congregation / school on ***Super Bowl (February 12th)***. Orders must be placed by February Narthex of the Church (forms available) so we can accordingly – sub pick up will be after the church service on February 12th. Free will donations will be accepted at that time, with a portion collected going toward Epiphany Lutheran Church in Jackson, MS and the rest to support future Youth Gatherings and mission opportunities. Contact Andy Wildauer with any questions.
- **BLESSINGS IN A BACKPACK:** Middle School through High School Youth will be serving our Bremen community through this wonderful opportunity on the evening of March 7th. More information to follow through other channels.



offering
Sunday
5th in the
plan

If there are any questions related to the Youth Group, please contact Andy Wildauer at (801) 707-3399.

The Hospitality Committee is a committee that comes out of our **Parish Fellowship Board**. The purpose of this committee is to care for the physical needs of the members of St. Paul's and the community of Bremen. This group now has made over 100 dinners for many of our seniors of the church and community. The committee is trying to do this once a month. To have more people involved we are looking for people to deliver the meals, like those who delivered the tins of sweets that went out last month. If you are willing to help please contact Sandy Schooler or Pastor Wonnacott. Also, if you know of someone in need of a meal please contact Pastor Wonnacott. If you received one of these meals please keep the containers so that we can fill them again.

From your Stewardship Board...It's Tax Time again so don't forget about a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD).

A qualified charitable distribution (QCD) is a distribution from your individual retirement account (IRA) to a qualified charity. You must be age 70½ or older to make a qualified charitable distribution. A qualified charitable distribution is not taxed, nor is it included in your taxable income.

If certain conditions are met, QCDs also can count toward the required minimum distributions (RMDs) that people who are age 73 or older must meet each year if they have traditional IRAs (or a number of other tax advantaged retirement plans that you can't use for a QCD). Also important: You don't have to itemize on your tax return to take advantage of a QCD.

INFORMATION ON CALL COMMITTEE ACTIVITY

Please keep the Call Committee and Parish Planning Council in your prayers.

Lenten Midweek Series – Chronicles of the King – Worship at 7pm

1. Feb. 22nd - Ash Wednesday: *Count on It: David*, 1 Chronicles 21:1–2, 7–19, 26–27
2. Mar. 1st - Lenten Midweek 2: Blood Money: Asa, 2 Chronicles 14:1–7; 16:1–13
3. Mar. 8th - Lenten Midweek 3: Strange Bedfellows: Jehoshaphat, 2 Chronicles 17:1–6; 18:1–3; 19:1–7
4. Mar. 15th - Lenten Midweek 4: Cleaning House: Joash, 2 Chronicles 24:1–4, 17–25
5. Mar. 22nd - Lenten Midweek 5: Know Thyself: Uzziah, 2 Chronicles 26:1–5, 15b–21
6. Mar. 29th - Lenten Midweek 6: Our Last Hope: Josiah, 2 Chronicles 34:1–3; 35:20–27
7. April 6th - Maundy Thursday: Prepared Food: Hezekiah, 2 Chronicles 30:1–5, 10–13, 22b–27
8. April 7th - Good Friday: ~~WORST.~~ BEST. KING. EVER.: Manasseh, 2 Chronicles 33:1–20
9. April 9th - Easter Sunrise: After the End, Ezekiel 37:1–14, 24–28
10. April 9th - Easter Festival: Long Lives the King of Kings! Psalm 146

Most Christians are aware that Jesus is the King of kings, but there is much to be explored in this aspect of Christology. The Books of Chronicles are focused on the kingdom of Judah, which is to say the House of David. Interpreters often miss that the goal of Chronicles is to illustrate, through the kings of Judah, the rule of the coming King—the Christ, who will sit on the throne of His father David forever. The goal of these sermons is to bring the kingdom of Christ into clearer focus through the lens of the good kings (mostly) of Judah as they are portrayed in the Chronicles. From this point of view, the focus is not on how we should learn righteousness from the kings of Judah, but on how each king is a shadow of the one true King, Jesus Christ. He is the fulfillment of the promise, which each king was unable to realize. Everyone is

welcomed and encouraged to grow in their faith and fellowship with one another during this Lenten season!

Midweek Lenten Meals take place at 6:00pm, before the worship services.

Ushers: It is very important that you find your own replacement if you are not going to be able to usher during your assigned time. Please take the time to do this so that we always have ushers available to assist our members and visitors. Thank you.

LCMS Stewardship Ministry – lcms.org/stewardship

Newsletter Article – February 2023

God in Man Made Manifest

The season of Epiphany focuses on how God was made manifest in the flesh of Jesus. The church spends time hearing of the miracles, signs, and wonders of Jesus in the world. And this made plain to all that Jesus really is who He said He was. He is the Second Person of the Holy Trinity, the only begotten Son of the Father, in the flesh. For “the Word became flesh and dwelt among us” (John 1:14).

It is revealed for all the world to see that Jesus is God in the flesh. It is made manifest by His words and His work, by what He said and by what He did. And these belong together, for “the Word became flesh and dwelt among us.” Jesus is the Word and will of God in the flesh, that is, He is the walking, talking enactment of God’s Word.

It is no different for us. We are called not just to believe in God in hearts but also to trust in God in word and deed. As James wrote: “But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves” (James 1:22), and again, “What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith

but does not have works? ... So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead. ... Show me your faith apart from your works, and I will show you my faith by my works. ... For as the body apart from the spirit is dead, so also faith apart from works is dead” (James 2:14, 17–18, 26).

Our faith is lived out in works for our neighbor. Our trust in the Word and will of God is lived out not in word only but also in deed and in truth. In other words, the Epiphany of the Lord creates in us an epiphany of our faith in our works of obedience to God who commanded them. By this, our faith is made manifest to the world. It is, as Luther wrote of faith:

Faith is a divine work in us. It changes us and makes us to be born anew of God (John 1). It kills the old Adam and makes altogether different people, in heart and spirit and mind and powers, and it brings with it the Holy Spirit.

Oh, it is a living, busy, active, mighty thing, this faith. And so it is impossible for it not to do good works incessantly. It does not ask whether there are good works to do, but before the question rises, it has already done them, and is always at the doing of them.

He who does not these works is a faithless man. He gropes and looks about after faith and good works and knows neither what faith is nor what good works are, though he talks and talks, with many words about faith and good works.

Faith is a living, daring confidence in God’s grace, so sure and certain that a man would stake his life on it a thousand times. This confidence in God’s grace and knowledge of it makes men glad and bold and happy in dealing with God and all His creatures. And this is the work of the Holy Spirit in faith. Hence a man is ready and glad, without compulsion, to do good to

everyone, to serve everyone, to suffer everything, in love and praise to God, who has shown him this grace.

And thus it is impossible to separate works from faith, quite as impossible as to separate burning and shining from fire. Beware, therefore, of your own false notions and of the idle talkers, who would be wise enough to make decisions about faith and good works, and yet are the greatest fools. (*Preface to the Book of Romans*)

So, then, let our faith be active by God's power in the Word through the Holy Spirit. And let then our faith be made manifest to the world by what this faith does: serving our neighbor – in church, in the family, and society – with the works of faith in time, talents, and treasures.

PTL FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITIES

On Tuesday, February 21st (all day) Hacienda in Plymouth will be giving us 20% of the sales for food, drinks, and gift cards. This is for dine in or carry out. You will need a coupon to take with you. Please watch for the coupons in upcoming bulletins.

In March we will be doing doughnuts with Krispy Kreme again. More information will be available in the March Epistle.

We appreciate everyone's support of the PTL. Thank you!

This is the 5th in a series of articles outlining the responsibilities and duties of the various St. Paul's Boards as demanded by our Church Constitution. This month we look at the St. Paul's School Board.

- 1) To plan and administer the Day School/Pre-School educational programs.
- 2) To determine policies, select personnel, provide necessary means and facilities and direct and supervise these educational programs.
- 3) Annually to engage in a self study and evaluation of its work.
- 4) Review the responsibilities, objectives, and policies listed in the Board's Handbook and Policy Manual and revise or update as necessary.
- 5) Appoint one member of its board to be a member of the Salary and Wage Advisory Committee.
- 6) Director to be a member of the Scholarship Committee.
- 7) Board is responsible to submit an annual budget request.

Postings from Preschool

February is a month with a holiday devoted to love- Valentine's Day- and that reminds us all of the ultimate love our Savior Jesus showed when He died on the cross to save us. Our Bible lessons over the past month have taught us to share this love with others; the account of Jesus blessing the children, His sermon on the Mount, Zacchaeus being forgiven, and Jesus stilling the storm to save His disciples.

We also learned about good dental health in conjunction with the letter T, celebrated National Lutheran Schools Week, and made our own personal pizzas. This month we'll make some great Valentine crafts and enjoy giving Valentines to our friends. May you feel blessed by God's love every day!

OUR OFFERINGS TO THE LORD FROM HIS BLESSINGS TO US

Offerings remind us of the blessings God has given us and are an opportunity to thank Him for what He has done in our lives. Please place your offerings in our Offering Box located in front of the water fountains in the narthex of the church. You may also choose “e-tithing” by having a weekly deposit to St Paul’s from your bank account. If you have questions on e-tithing, please contact the Church Office.

From your Stewardship board...

END OF AMAZON SMILE

In 2013, Amazon launched AmazonSmile to make it easier for customers to support their favorite charities. However, after almost a decade, the program has not grown to create the impact that was originally hoped.

As a result, Amazon plans to wind down AmazonSmile by February 20, 2023. They will continue to pursue and invest in other areas where they could make meaningful changes— from building affordable housing to providing access to computer science education for students in underserved communities.

To help charities that have been a part of the AmazonSmile program with this transition, they are providing them with a one-time donation equivalent to three months of what they earned in 2022 through the program, and they will also be able to accrue additional donations until the program officially closes in February.

SGO DONATIONS

Please don't forget to donate to St. Paul's SGO (Scholarship Granting Organization)! This last year we disbursed almost \$21,000 in scholarships to assist students with tuition in St. Paul's Lutheran School. This is a huge blessing to them and a way to minister to others!

Plus, donating to the SGO benefits you! Your donation will be given a 50% state tax credit as well as being eligible as a deductible.

For more information, contact Jennifer Harman at the school office (547-546-2790) or pick up a pamphlet from the tract rack in the narthex.

Mission of the Month

In 2023 our Sunday School continues to send \$75.00 each month to a mission.

February Mission of the Month: Lutheran Hour Ministries (LHM)

The LHM Mission: *Bringing Christ to the Nations—and the Nations to the Church*

In 1930, "There is a God" were the first words spoken on The Lutheran Hour® radio program broadcast over the airwaves to thousands of listeners.

Today LHM shares the Gospel message with people around the world more than 150 million times each week through ministry efforts such as Bible Correspondence Courses, Outreach Training, Bible Studies, Daily Devotions and The Lutheran Hour.

For more information go to: www.lhm.org

Sunday School - Winter Quarter Offerings

Pre-K -Grade 2 Nazareth Room

This class will study the life and times of Jesus and its application for daily living. The class will meet in Mrs. Thornton’s Preschool classroom and be taught by Wendy Coxey. 8:30-9:15 am.

Grades 3-5 School Classroom

We will pick up on our “Life in Christ” series as we study Old Testament History – the fall of Adam and Eve through the early years of Joseph – noting the plans and promises God has for His people. This class will be taught by Heidi Wildauer and will meet in the Day School. 8:30-9:15 am.



Middle School grades 6-8: Early Christians read God’s Word aloud together in community. Bring your Bibles and come ready to read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest. Gather in gym Mezzanine 8:30 am.-9:15 am.

High School Jerusalem Room

Bill Rogers will continue with a video series discussing situations that effect today's teens and how Christians should respond according to God’s Word. The class will meet in the Jerusalem Room. 8:30-9:15 a.m.

Adult Bible Class

Terry Miller will continue leading the Bible study and discussion on the book of Daniel . . . meets in the Bethany Room, 8:30 am.-9:15 am.



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Men's Bible Study: Men (ages 18+) meet at the Bremen Community Hospital cafeteria to enjoy breakfast and fellowship while studying God's Word and various topics. The group meets every other Wednesday, 6:30 am.-7:30 am.

We look forward to seeing you

The Board of Christian Education thanks all of the teachers that have given of themselves to teach this last quarter.

"Now Is the Day!"

Acts 17:20 - "For you bring some strange things to our ears. We wish to know therefore what these things mean."

When the apostle Paul stood on Mars' Hill surrounded by the brilliant minds of Athens, what was his message? What was his theme whenever he spoke? You should know the apostle well enough to answer, "the crucified and resurrected Christ." The writer of Acts sums it up in these words: "he was preaching Jesus and the resurrection" (Acts 17:18b).

Do not follow those mocking atheists on Mars' Hill. Ask God for the strength to remove every obstacle that will prevent you from coming to Christ. For many years, large, jutting rocks at Hell Gate in New York Harbor proved a menace to shipping. They had to be removed, so they were blasted away by dynamite. Likewise, the stone of your unbelief, still placed before the Savior's grave, must also be rolled away. If you are to escape the terrors of the real hell's gate. For the safety of your soul, and your entire Christian life, you must know, as Paul reminds us, "the power of His resurrection" (Philippians 3:10b). The Greek word he uses for "power" and the English word "dynamite" are closely related.

Another group of Paul's hearers on Mars' Hill were those who said, "We will hear you again about this" (Acts 17:32b). They postponed coming to terms with Christ. Are you one of these? You can be spiritually rich with the Easter promise, yet remain impoverished because of your hard heart. You hear the appeal for repentance and faith in Christ. The Spirit urges you to get right with your God. Nevertheless, you say, "Tomorrow! Next week! I will listen again next Sunday!" How do you know that you will? The average age of Americans today is 38 years. Many of you are 10, 20, even 30 years older. For those of you in your later years, these questions of the grave, the judgment, and eternity come with particular force.

Remember "now"—not next month or next year—"is the day of salvation" (2 Corinthians 6:2b). You can spurn this grace once too often. Acts records, "So Paul went out from their midst" (Acts 17:33). Most of them may have never seen him again or heard the life-giving message he brought to them. Will this be the last Christian message you hear or read?

Still, others in the apostle's audience were those who "joined him and believed" (Acts 17:34a). There on Mars' Hill, God's Spirit touched their hearts, and they were saved. As Easter Day in the ancient church was a time when converts confessed their faith, so, too, may this coming Easter be a day of resurrection faith in the Lord Jesus Christ's triumphant victory over the grave for each one of us.

Those who came to faith in Athens many centuries ago placed their trust on the blood of Jesus Christ—the spotless Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world (see John 1:29). Let us do the same.

From "Christ Lives—and We Shall Live," a sermon excerpt from Rev. Dr. Walter A. Maier, the first Speaker of **The Lutheran Hour**

Reflection Questions:

1. Do you ever discuss religion with your friends as a group? How is that experience?

2. How far-fetched do you think Paul's ideas sounded to those in Athens?

3. Do you enjoy talking to others about the Christian faith and religion in general? Does the conversation get a little touchy at times?

St. Paul's Lutheran Women's Missionary League

As Lutheran Women in Mission, we joyfully proclaim Christ, support missions, and equip women to honor God by serving others. Adopted 2021

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2023

Program: **Bible Study “In the Father's Arms”** led by Pastor Wonnacott PACK
“GOODIE BOXES” for college students. **YOUR STUDENT'S ADDRESS**

**MUST BE TURNED INTO THE CHURCH OFFICE BEFORE JANUARY 22, OR THEY
MAY NOT RECEIVE A BOX!!!!!!**

If anyone wishes to donate for the boxes, please bring 1 dozen individually-wrapped items to the Church Kitchen on Sunday February 5. Better yet, come to the Bible Study & bring them along.
Refreshments served afterward.

Special Meeting Time: MONDAY, MARCH 27, 2023 Program:
Holy Land Highlights from 1, or more, of the four ladies from
St. Paul's who traveled to Israel recently. Refreshments served afterward.

40th LWML Biennial Convention at Milwaukee, Wisconsin, June 22-25,
2023 Theme: “Celebrate the Lord of the Nations”

If anyone would like bus information, contact Elaine. Registration info should be available in the next “Good News,” Quarterly magazine, or online.

Psalm 100:2a “**Serve the Lord with Gladness**” *LWML motto*

St. Paul's 177th LITURGICAL YEAR + February 1, 2023 – Feb 28, 2023

Worship Opportunities To Bless Our Lives

* Celebration Of Holy Communion

Feb. 5th – 5th Sunday of Epiphany

Feb. 12th – 6th Sunday of Epiphany *

Feb. 19th – Transfiguration of the Lord

Feb. 26th – First Sunday in Lent *

Feb 22nd – Ash Wednesday at 7pm

All Services are at 7pm unless noted.

February Minor Festivals: 2 Presentation Of Our Lord/Purification Of Mary • 24 St.

Matthias, Apostle • *Commemorations: 5* Jacob (Israel), Patriarch • **10** Silas, a.k.a. Silvanus

• **13** Aquila, Priscilla, Apollos • **14** Valentine Martyr • **15** Philemon & Onesimus • **16** Philipp

Melanchthon (birth), Confessor • **18** Martin Luther 1483-1546 Doctor and Confessor • **23**

Polycarp Of Smyrna, Pastor & Martyr

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lententide, a 40-day penitential season as confess and return to the Lord, so that we may celebrate The Feast of the Resurrection with clean hearts. • Throughout Lent, we trace the steps of Jesus as He travels to Calvary. We see His obedience to the Father; none could turn Him aside from the cross. ***“Now it came to pass,, when the time had come for Him to be received up, that He steadfastly set His face to go to Jerusalem...”*** Luke 9:51 NKJV We see Him cling to the Father in prayer; knowing only in remaining in His presence could He be unwavering, even in the face of great suffering. ***“He went a little farther and fell on His face, and prayed, saying, 'O My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as You will.'”*** Matthew 26:39 NKJV We see His compassion for His mother, His disciples and friends, those who nailed His hands and feet, those who mocked and blasphemed. We see

His undying love for His Church, as He pours out His body and blood for her; and gives her Himself to “feast upon” for the remainder of her days: “Take, eat.... Take, drink....” • Though a solemn time in the Church Year, Lent does not include Sundays. The Lord is risen! And

Sundays remain His day. ● While we may “retrace” Jesus' steps to Calvary, He is not there; and He is not in the tomb. These are days of remembrance for all He has done to effect our eternal salvation; to wipe out our sins and guilt; to gift us with eternal life. ● Thus, we “sorrow for a moment” as we “remember the price” Jesus paid for our sins. But true joy dawned on that first Easter morning, and no one can dim the glory of our risen Lord! ●

“Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed – in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: 'Death is swallowed up in victory.' O Death, where is your sting?? O Hades, where is your victory? The sting of death is sin, and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.”

I Corinthians 15:51,52,54-57 NKJV



Birthdays & Anniversaries

February 2023

ANNIVERSARIES

3	Arick & Noelle Cannon	18	Justin & Priscilla Quenan
6	Bill & Sharon Latzke		
14	Tim & Jennifer Harman Josh & Lacey Shumaker		

BIRTHDAYS

1	Matthew Harman Julia Miller	15	Marilyn Gumz
2	Kurt Guse	17	Heaven Hicks Matthew Podlin Wayne Spicher
3	Garrett Fox Ellen Haug	18	Bentley Levendoski Gavin Stanifer
7	Anders Brurok Beck Brurok Hannah Goze Dakota Schmeltz	19	Shirley Lakins
8	Brandon Cope Madison Lee Rick Napper	20	Daniel Knepper
9	Tammy Venable	22	Kila Foster Jamie (Hicks) Reed
10	Diana Rodgers Barbara Stillson	23	Lois Schoning
11	Elizabeth Bowen Lori Cope	24	Janet Anglemyer Jason Heuberger Violet Levendoski
12	Kellan Guse Cathy Chrisman Maddison Sherk	26	Virginia Lynch Terry Miller
14	Hunter Cannon Joseph Hughes Bradin Schmitt	27	Claire Bickel Carol Lynch
		28	Larry Miller
		29	Bruce Schmidt

